(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has repoorted that during the period September to November, 1988, it had received some anonymous petitions against certain officers of its Bangalore Office. Inquiries made by RBI revealed the allegations to be without substance.

(b) and (c) A section of the Class III employees of the Bangalore Office of RBI had a strike from 21-8-87 to 30-9.87. A section of the Class IV emloyees struck work for a few days in support of the agitation by the Class III emoloyees. According to RBI, the strike had been sparked off following the suspension of three employees for their unseemly behaviour in the chamber of the Manager of RBI, Bangalore Office. RBI has further indicated that the strike was not against any alleged corrupt practices of any officer of the Bank.

Conversion of Handlooms into Powerlooms

*310. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had discontinued its experimental scheme of conversion of handlooms into powerlooms in 1961;

(b) whether it is also a fact that contrary to clear Government policies his Ministry is regularising unauthorised powerlooms; and

(c) if so, what steps are being templated in this regard so as to protect the interests of handlooms weavers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Textile Policy 1985 of Government of India aims at removal of structural rigidities in the textile industry and harmonious development of its various sectors. Taking note of the growth of unauthorised powerlooms in the past on account of certain economic advantages enjoyed by them, the Textile Policy stipulates that powerlooms in the organised mill sector and in the unorganised powerloom sector shall, as far as possible, be treated at par. In the context of the unplanned growth of powerlooms in the unorganised sector, the Textile Policy further stipulates compulsory registration of powerlooms.

(c) The Textile Policy envisages that effective measures would be taken to see that the powerlooms do not encroach upon articles reserved for exclusive production on handlooms. Accordingly in order to protect the interest of the handloom sector the Central Government have reserved 22 items of cotton, silk, wool and blends for execlusive production in the handloom sector under the provisions of the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985. Central Government has also set up Enforcement Machinery to implement the Reservation Orders and is assisting the State Governments in setting up of similar Enforcement Machinery.

Utilisation of Irrigation capacity

*313. SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH AURORA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at the beginning of the Seventh Five Year Plan the available irrigation capacity was 67.5 m. hectares whereas its utilisation was only 60.5 m. hectares;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have made special efforts